

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**Remarks**

Claims 1-25 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1-23 and added new claims 24 and 25. Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance based on the discussion which follows.

Claims 1-23 were objected to as being generally narrative, functional, awkward and/or including inferentially recited elements and lacking proper antecedent basis. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1-23 to obviate the objection and to put the claims in a more conventional claim form. In addition, by this Amendment, Applicants have added new claims 24 and 25 based on the recited elements previously recited in claims 3 and 6, respectively, which, therefore, do not constitute new matter. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the claims be withdrawn in view of the claim amendments.

Claims 1-3, 13, 14 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Schmutz (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0189473) (hereinafter "Schmutz"), and claims 4-12 and 15-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schmutz, further in view of Hara et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,101,943) (hereinafter "Hara").

In order to more clearly recite Applicants' invention, Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate subject matter previously recited in claim 2. Moreover, the subject matter now recited in claim 1 is commensurate in scope with the claims which issued in the corresponding patent, EP 1 644 196 B1. Accordingly, Applicants

respectfully submit that the claims, as amended, correspond to novel and non-obvious subject matter, as was found in the EP '196 patent and as further discussed below.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is further distinguishable over the prior art. Schmutz, which was previously cited as anticipating claims 1 and 2, fails to teach or in any way make obvious the claimed deformable presser which comprises an elastomeric membrane with a profile substantially in the form of an isosceles trapezium. While the Examiner has alleged that Schmutz teaches a pressing element 6 (Examiner citing Schmutz, Figures 1 and 5), pressing element 6 does not have an isosceles trapezium shape. Further, Schmutz element 6 does not have a longer base fixed perimetrically with a seal to an edge having a conjugate profile of a chamber of a cross-piece fixed on its cleaning equipment and a shorter base of the membrane having a profile which is initially slightly convex in a direction of a cylinder to be cleaned and having a low-relief shape. Accordingly, Schmutz fails to teach or in any way make obvious the claimed invention. Applicants further submit that Hara fails to make up the deficiencies of Schmutz with regard to the claimed invention.

The dependent claims are also allowable for the same reasons as claim 1, and also because they each recite new distinctive features to claim 1.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is not anticipated or obvious in view of the prior art.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance.

## **END REMARKS**